Appl. No. PCT/EP03/50231 Amdt. dated December 17, 2004 Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-2 have been amended herein. The specification is also amended herein to reflect the terminology used in the claims. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is presented herein.

A substitute specification is submitted herewith with the paragraph numbers indicated, a substitute claim set and abstract. The claims as amended herein reflect changes to the claims after the PCT Article 34 amendments.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for consideration on the merits.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald T. Gray Reg. No. 41,797

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 925-472-5000 Fax: 415-576-0300

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